

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 15356 122131Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 ICA-20 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 AF-10
ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 OES-07 PA-02
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
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UNCLAS PARIS 15356

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO, SCUL, TGEN
SUBJECT: UNESCO: REVISED EDITION OF THE HISTORY OF
MANKIND

1. AT ITS 103RD SESSION, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD PASSED A
RESOLUTION TO PRODUCE A REVISED EDITION OF THE
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF MANKIND, ORIGINALLY
PUBLISHED BY UNESCO DURING 1952-1969. THIS MASSIVE
WORK ISSUED IN SIX VOLUMES IN FRENCH AND 11 VOLUMES IN
ENGLISH AND SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSLATED INTO MANY OTHER
LANGUAGES, IS LONG OUT OF PRINT. IT HAS ALSO BEEN
CRITICIZED BY SOME ARAB AND AFRICAN HISTORIANS AS
BEING AN INACCURATE RENDERING OF THEIR PAST.

2. A GROUP OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS WHO ARE ALSO
HISTORIANS (CARNEIRO OF BRAZIL, KOUTAKOV OF USSR,
GOPAL OF INDIA, UZLAR-PIETRI OF VENEZUELA, AND PORTER
OF SIERRA LEONE) MET ON MAY 9 TO GET THE PROJECT ON THE
ROAD. USDEL WAS INVITED AS THE SIXTH PARTICIPANT
(SCIATT SANDVED ATTENDED). IN ADDITION,
MORAZE, A FRENCH HISTORIAN WHO WORKED ON THE ORIGINAL
DOCUMENT, AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE UNESCO SECRETARIAT
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PAGE 02 PARIS 15356 122131Z

FROM THE CULTURAL AND PUBLICATIONS SECTORS PARTICIPATED.

3. GOPAL OF INDIA SUGGESTED THAT REGIONAL CENTERS BE
MADE RESPONSIBLE FOR GUIDING THE UPDATING. HIS
PROPOSAL FOR SUCH A CENTER IN THE USA IS THE LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS, AND HE HAS ALREADY BEEN IN CONTACT WITH
DANIEL BOORSTIN, LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS, ON THIS

SUBJECT (THE TWO KNOW EACH OTHER). USDEL PROMISED CHAIRMAN CARNEIRO THAT HE WOULD ALERT THE U.S. TO THIS UPCOMING PROJECT FOR THE PURPOSE OF GETTING U.S. INSTITUTIONS AND SCHOLARS INVOLVED.

4. A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING WILL FOLLOW BY LETTER. MEANWHILE, USDEL SUGGESTS DEPARTMENT INFORM DR. BOORSTIN (BY COPY OF THIS CABLE IF NECESSARY) THAT THE ORGANIZING MEETING HAS BEEN HELD, IN ORDER THAT HE BE AWARE THAT MISSION WILL FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS UNTIL SOMEONE ELSE TAKES OVER. IT IS EXPECTED THAT A LARGER ORGANIZING MEETING, HAVING 18 PARTICIPANTS, WILL BE CALLED BY CARNEIRO IN PARIS SOMETIME BETWEEN MID-JULY AND EARLY SEPTEMBER. A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND.
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Message Attributes

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